

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:DANDERSON:LR

APPROVED BY EUR: MR. HARTMAN

C:MR. SHINN

S/S-O:PK JOHNSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 048742

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, CGEN, GE, GW, US

SUBJECT: FRG APPROACH ON US-GDR CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS

1. FRG AMBASSADOR VON STADEN CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN MARCH 4, ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM BONN, IN CONNECTION WITH THE US-GDR CONSULAR CONVENTION TALKS. VON STADEN SAID THE FRG WOULD WANT AN ASSURANCE FROM THE US THAT FRG CONSULAR OFFICERS IN THE US MAY EXTEND CONSULAR PROTECTION TO ALL GERMANS WHO REQUEST IT.

2. FOLLOWING IS THE CONTENTS OF A NON-PAPER WHICH VON STADEN LEFT WITH HARTMAN. BEGIN TEXT.

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IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE USA AND

THE GDR ON A CONSULAR CONVENTION, MY GOVERNMENT HAS INSTRUCTED ME TO RENEW TO YOU ITS STRONG INTEREST IN GUARDING OUR RIGHT TO ACCORD CONSULAR PROTECTION TO ALL GERMANS WHO SO REQUEST.

IN ORDER TO PRECLUDE ANY POSSIBLE MISINTERPRETATION BY THE GDR, WE WOULD APPRECIATE IF THE US GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE US AN ASSURANCE THAT THE CONSULAR OFFICERS OF THE FRG IN THE USA MAY EXTEND THE ABOVE-MENTIONED PROTECTION.

ACCORDING TO A REPORT BY OUR PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE IN EAST BERLIN, THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE GDR, NIER, RECENTLY TOLD THE HEAD OF THE LEGAL SECTION OF THE FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT THERE WAS NO NEED ON THE PART OF THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT TO GIVE THE FRG ANY SUCH ASSURANCE, AS NOT EVEN THE AMERICANS WERE WILLING TO DO SO.

IT IS TO BE EXPECTED THAT THE GDR WILL USE THIS ARGUMENT ALSO IN ITS DEALINGS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS. SINCE THE US IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT ALLY AND ONE OF THE THREE WESTERN POWERS, SOME GOVERNMENTS MIGHT BE IMPRESSED AND WE, AS A CONSEQUENCE, MIGHT ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTIES IN MAKING OUR CASE.

ALSO IN VIEW OF THE GREAT PUBLICITY THIS SUBJECT IS RECEIVING IN THE FRG AND PARTICULARLY IN THE BUNDESTAG, WE WOULD WELCOME, AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME, AN ASSURANCE AS OUTLINED ABOVE. END TEXT.

3. HARTMAN ASKED WHEN THE FRG WISHED THIS ASSURANCE. VON STADEN SAID IT SHOULD COME AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE US-GDR NEGOTIATIONS: ITS FORM AND CONTENT WOULD DEPEND, IN THE FRG VIEW, ON THE CONTENT OF THE US-GDR CONVENTION. HARTMAN ASKED WHETHER THE FRG WISHED SOMETHING IN WRITING OR ONLY AN ORAL ASSURANCE. VON STADEN SAID IT WAS TOO EARLY TO SAY AT THIS POINT, BUT THAT SOME FORM OF ASSURANCE WHICH WOULD ENABLE THE FRG TO COUNTER GDR STATEMENTS TO THIRD COUNTRIES WOULD BE USEFUL. VON STADEN STRESSED THE HIGHLY POLITICAL ASPECT
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OF THIS PROBLEM.

4. HARTMAN SAID THAT THE GDR STATEMENT TO THE FINNS WAS OBVIOUSLY WITHOUT FOUNDATION SINCE THE PARTICULAR CONSULAR PROTECTION ISSUE MENTIONED BY VON STADEN HAD NOT YET ARISEN IN THE US-GDR TALKS. HARTMAN SAID THE FRG COULD SO INFORM THE FINNS. AS TO THE SUGGESTED ASSURANCE, HARTMAN SAID BOTH THE US AND FRG WOULD HAVE TO

CONSULT ON THAT TOPIC ONCE THE US-GDR CONSULAR CONVENTIONS
TALKS WERE FURTHER ALONG. KISSINGER

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